

covers the period from January to August, 1901. This large collection numbers about 260 species and subspecies, 12 of which are here characterized as new. "A large proportion of the mountain species," says Mr. Bangs, "are not different from the birds of the high Costa Rica mountains, although there are some striking exceptions; and the Volcan de Chiriqui is probably too near to have a mountain fauna wholly its own. Those birds that do differ usually have larger bills than their Costa Rica representatives." Although for the most part the list is a record merely of the specimens contained in the collection, with dates and localities of capture, without field notes, here and there Mr. Bangs adds technical comment on the nomenclature and relationships of some of the forms. The paper is, of course, an important addition to our knowledge of the bird fauna of this very interesting region, and great credit is due Mr. Brown for his intelligent and energetic work in gathering the material which Mr. Bangs has so discriminatingly elaborated. —J. A. A.

Seale on the Avifauna of Guam.¹—Mr. Seale was sent to the island of Guam, one of the Mariana or Ladrone Islands, by the Bishop Museum of Honolulu to make collections of its fauna. Volume I of the 'Occasional Papers' of this Museum contains reports by Mr. Seale on the birds and fishes. The island of Guam, says Mr. Seale, "is densely wooded, except in the northwest, where there is a small range of low mountains reaching to an elevation of 1800 feet." The island is thirty-two miles long by twelve miles broad, and has a general altitude of from fifty to seventy-five feet; it has "a few small fresh water ponds and marshes, and perhaps eight to ten small streams." Mr. Seale's paper on the birds is not merely a list of the species, but is constructed on the plan of a 'hand-book,' with keys to the genera and species, as well as to the higher groups, and descriptions of the species and bibliographical references. It is intended to include all of the species known from the island, and apparently to make sure of this a few are included of doubtful or probable occurrence. Some of these have been recorded from other islands of the Mariana group, but others from points not nearer than the Samoan Islands, or merely as from "intertropical seas." In several instances included species are stated to be "not known from Guam."

The number of species formally included is 58, of which about one half appear to have been obtained by Mr. Seale, many of them in good series. There are also interesting observations on the habits of many species, and illustrations of the nests and eggs of several of them. A new species of Heron is described as *Ardetta bryani*.

The paper will doubtless prove of great use to ornithologically inclined

¹ Report of a Mission to Guam. By Alvin Seale. Part I.—Avifauna. Occas. Papers of the Bernice Pauahi Bishop Museum of Polynesian Ethnology and Natural History, Vol. I, No. 3, 1901, pp. 17-60, pll., and 6 text figures.

persons living on the island, besides forming a valuable contribution to ornithology. — J. A. A.

Mrs. Miller's 'The Second Book of Birds'.¹— Mrs. Miller's 'Second Book of Birds'² treats briefly of twenty-eight families of the land birds of North America, beginning with the Thrushes and ending with the Vultures. Generally several typical members of each family are treated at greater or less length, their leading traits being sketched in simple language, without technicalities, the accounts being pleasantly enlivened with anecdotes of particular birds, or pairs of birds, that have come under the writer's personal observation, or derived from authentic sources. The book is thus well adapted to interest beginners in the study of ornithology, and especially to help the younger aspirants to secure some knowledge of birds and bird ways. Its influence will be eminently healthful in stimulating interest in the living bird and its welfare.

In an appendix of eight pages the characters by which the families may be distinguished are briefly given, including a few remarks on their food and habits. The twenty-four full-page plates, eight of which are colored, after designs by Mr. Fuertes, give full-length portraits of some representative species of nearly all of the families treated. Altogether the book is well designed to fill its intended rôle. — J. A. A.

Lord's *Birds of Oregon and Washington*.¹— Mr. Lord's little book on the birds of Oregon and Washington is a 'first book' in a double sense, it being the first formal treatise on the birds of these two States, and also a 'first book' in the sense that it is especially intended for beginners. It treats of about one hundred and fifty species, mostly the commoner land birds, excluding, however, the game birds. "The book is also limited," says the author, "in that it seeks mainly to help one to become acquainted with the birds by sight and song, leaving, for the most part, a treatment of the habits of birds, their nesting, etc., for later study." The book was prompted by the difficulties the author himself experienced in trying to

¹ The Second Book | of Birds | Bird Families | By Olive Thorne Miller | With eight colored plates from designs | by Louis Agassiz Fuertes, | and sixteen other full-page | illustrations | [Vignette] Boston and New York | Houghton, Mifflin and Company | The Riverside Press, Cambridge | 1901. — Sq. 12mo. pp. viii+210, pl. 24. Price \$1.00.

² For a notice of the 'First Book' see *Auk* XVI, 1899, p. 368.

³ A First Book upon the Birds of Oregon and Washington. A Pocket Guide and Pupil's Assistant in a study of the more common Land Birds and a few of the Shore and Water Birds of these States. By William Rogers Lord. Revised and enlarged edition, 1902. William Rogers Lord, Office of the J. K. Gill Company, Portland, Oregon. — 16mo, pp. 1-304 + i-iv, with 20 full-page half-tone plates. Price 75 cents.